

**Closing date: Monday 20 January 2025**

## **Chair for the Management of Microbial Keratitis Clinical Guideline Development Group**

### **Role description and person specification**

The Chair will work in collaboration with the guideline staff of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) and members of the guideline development group (GDG) over a period of approximately 18 months to produce a clinical guideline on the Management of Microbial Keratitis on behalf of the RCOphth.

The Chair may be a specialist, but this is not essential because specialist knowledge can be provided by other members. They should however, be sensitive to pre-existing inter-professional tensions and hierarchies and ensure that all members of the group feel able to contribute fully to the guideline development process. The Chair must be prepared to overcome potentially serious difficulties by careful negotiation. The Chair must ensure that the GDG work is accordance with the guidance development process outlined in the RCOphth Guidance Manual.

This description should be considered in conjunction with the RCOphth Clinical Guidance Manual and the current conflicts of interest policy.

### **Summary**

#### **Responsibilities**

The Chair will be supported by guideline development staff at the RCOphth who are responsible for the overall project management, organisation of GDG meetings, organising and carrying out evidence reviews.

#### **General**

- Attend all GDG meetings (virtual or in-person)
- Ensure deadlines and timetables are met in conjunction with the College guideline staff.
- Future College guidelines will be published in the Eye Journal. Following publication the chair should promote the guideline and undertake activities to promote its implementation, such as talking at College Congress and other professional meetings.

#### **Guideline set-up**

- Uphold and engage with the [College values](#) throughout the process
- Advise on the composition and membership of the GDG

- Participate in the selection of GDG members
- Agree the detailed work plan for the guideline development project
- Work with the College guideline staff and external stakeholders to develop the scope of the guideline.
- Chairing GDG meetings
- Help prepare the agenda and plan the GDG meetings
- Ask for Declarations of Interests from members at each meeting, identify any conflicts and handle these as they arise in line with RCOphth's policy (copy available on request).
- Ensure that the committee meetings achieve their aims by keeping to the agenda.
- Facilitate discussion at GDG meetings about guideline development and writing of recommendations, within the agreed scope.
- Involve all GDG members in discussion and decisions and encourage all members to express their views.
- Assist in resolving concerns or disagreements between GDG members.
- Sign-off all minutes once approved by the GDG.

### **Developing recommendations and drafting the guidelines**

- Work with the GDG and the College guideline staff as required between meetings to identify key issues, formulate clinical questions for review, review evidence tables, and draft recommendations.
- Work with the College guideline staff and GDG on writing and editing drafts of the guideline and take responsibility for approving the drafts of the guideline
- Advise on responding to stakeholder comments on the draft guideline
- Check the draft clinical audit criteria and implementation tools as required.

### **Personal Requirements**

| <b>REQUIREMENT</b>  | <b>ESSENTIAL</b> |
|---|------------------|
| An associate, affiliate, member or fellow of the RCOphth with a demonstrable interest in management of microbial keratitis and the provision of care for patients | Yes              |
| Proven interest and experience of chairing committees to achieve specific goal.   | Yes              |
| A high level of personal credibility within the profession  | Yes              |
| Excellent communication, diplomacy, influencing and leadership skills   | Yes              |
| Up to date Equality and Diversity training  | Yes              |
| Experience of developing evidence based guidelines or an understanding evidence grading   | Preferable       |
| IT skills (proficient in Word and Excel as a minimum)   | Preferable       |

### **Conflicts of interest**

When the interest of a member conflicts, or appears to conflict, with the interest of the College, this must be declared.

### **General**

In accordance with College policy, all correspondence and other dealings with professional and other organisations will be prepared within the College by College staff.

No sponsorship may be sought or accepted without prior permission of the Honorary Treasurer.

No member may be paid or accept payment in cash or kind for work undertaken on behalf of the Committee or the College.

**Key working relationships will be with:**

The Chairman of the Scientific Committee  
Chair of the Guideline Oversight Group  
BOSU and Guidelines Manager

**Conditions**

The GDG Chair will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred through attending GDG and other guideline meetings.